



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/530,145	04/24/2000	TOSHIO YAMAWAKI	37395/DBP	5367

7590 07/09/2004

D BRUCE PROUT
CHRISTIE PARKER & HALE
350 WEST COLORADO BOULEVARD
SUITE 500
PASADENA, CA 91105

EXAMINER

BOAKYE, ALEXANDER O

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2667

102

DATE MAILED: 07/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/530,145

Applicant(s)

YAMAWAKI, TOSHIO

Examiner

Alexander Boakye

Art Unit

2666

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 6/07/04.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 12-14, 17, 18, 20 and 22 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10, 11, 15, 16, 19, 21, 23, 24, 25 and 26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 11.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 10, 11, 15, 16, 19, 21, 23, 24, 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurata et al. (US Patent # 5,379,292) in view of Baker et al. (US Patent # 5,570,366).

Regarding claims 10, 11, 15 and 16, Kurata discloses a gateway device interconnects two communication buses (column 3, lines 26-27) implemented with different communication methods, and in which information to be communicated is made up of a header field containing information such as an address necessary for communication and message instruction message, to be used at receiving side (column 3, lines 13-37 and 41-43, see Figs. 1 and 2) after the communication based on the header field is completed , the gateway device (column 3, lines 26-30) comprising: Judging means for judging, based on contents of the message field , whether or not the information received from one communication bus is to information that should be transmitted to the other communication bus (column 4, lines 21-28).

Kurata differs from the claimed invention in that Kurata does not disclose filtering means for transmitting the received information to the other communication bus when the received information is judged by the judging means to be the information that

Art Unit: 2667

should be transmitted. However, Baker discloses filtering means for transmitting the received information to the other communication bus when the received information is judged by the judging means to be the information that should be transmitted (column 4, lines 52-column 5, lines 1-18 and column 5, lines 52-55; see Fig. 8). One of the ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate filtering means into the communication network of Kurata in order to remove unwanted information. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate filter means such as the one taught by the Baker into the communication network of Kurata with the motivation being that it provides security.

Regarding claims 19 and 21, Kurata teaches that the contents of the message field is payload information (the claimed payload information of the message field corresponds to a data length, data 1 through data N of frame format of Fig. 2; column 4, lines 1-2).

Regarding claims 23 and 24, Kurata teaches that the header field includes information specifying a destination address (column 4, lines 6-10, the header field contains the destination address as shown in Fig. 2).

Regarding claim 25 and 26, Kurata discloses that the header field includes and address specifying a destination in the one communication bus (the claimed destination address is contained in the packet header field as indicated in Fig. 2).

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 12-14, 20 and 17,18 and 22 are allowable.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: As to claims 12-14 and 20 the prior art of record does not teach filtering means for comparing the information stored in the storage means with newly received information which is of the same kind as the stored information and is judged by the judging means to be the information that should be transmitted and, when their contents differ, transmitting the received information to the other communication bus while, at the same time, storing the received information in the storage means.

As to claims 17, 18 and 22, the prior art of record does not teach (c) performing the information that is judged in step (b) is compared with newly received information which is of the same kind as the stored information and is judged in the step (a) to be the information that should be transmitted and when their contents differ, the received information is transmitted to the other communication bus while, at the same time, storing the received information in the step (b).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 10-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander Boakye whose telephone number is (703) 308-9554. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:30am to 6:00pm.

Art Unit: 2667

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham, can be reached on (703) 305-4378. The fax number is (703) 872-9306. Any inquiry of a general or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4750.

Alexander Boakye

Patent Examiner

AB

6/25/04



CHI PHAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

6/28/07